



Sugar Ray Leonard and his wife Juanita share a playful hug in their suburban Maryland home.

## Sugar Ray's Toughest Challenger

The toughest challenge of Sugar Ray Leonard's 26-year-old life is whether he should continue boxing or retire.

As the popular champ recovers from his recent eye injury, both the public and his family are urging him to come out of the ring. If he stops fighting it will give Sugar Ray the opportunity to spend more time with his family and possibly increase it. His wife Juanita says she won't

agree to giving brothers and sisters to Little Ray until Sugar Ray "quits boxing and will stay home and help raise them."

It remains a mystery as to whether the three-time boxing champion will risk more injury and go for the middleweight championship title. If not, he plans to expand what he's already doing on television, get into movies, and become involved with radio and TV station ownership.

## Palmer heads all-star card

Defending champion Arnold Palmer heads the list of the 45 exempt entries announced this week for the 1982 U.S. Senior Open Champion-

ship, scheduled for July 8-11 at Portland Golf Club.

Other prominent exempt entries included Sam Snead, Tommy Bolt,

## Oregon women enter Jr. Olympic volleyball

EUGENE—The University of Oregon will be among 20 senior women's entries for the Western Zonals of the 1982 Junior Olympic Volleyball Championship beginning next Thursday at the University of California-Davis in Sacramento.

Coach Chris Voelz said the Oregon team would be comprised of three current members of the Duck squad and seven recruits who will join the team next fall.

The Junior Olympic program is for athletes who have not reached

their 20th birthday during the calendar year.

Cherie Elliott and Ronda Dalthorp, Oregon varsity players last fall, and redshirt Sue Harbour will be joined on the team by Los Angeles recruits Connie Riel, Shaunna Koenig, Jill Kosinski, Liz Eakin and Stephanie Tambe, Medford's Shelley Ashpole and Janette Hart-sell of San Francisco.

The senior girls division has been divided into four five-team pools for eliminations. The champion will be crowned Sunday night.

## Coleman looks to draft

by Barry Cooper

Nobody ever accused Vincent Coleman of lacking guts. Last football season, at a critical point in a crucial game, Coleman unwisely ignored orders from his Florida A&M coaches and ran when he should have punted.

Later, after coach Rudy Hubbard blamed a rash of blocked kicks on Coleman's three-step punting style, Coleman shrugged his shoulders and said, "I have nothing to apologize for."

It made for quite a controversy. But the story that swirled around Vincent Coleman last fall has dissipated. Forgotten are the headlines: "Coleman Arrested For Burglary" and "Blocked Kicks Foil Rattlers."

Those stories, says Coleman "are history now. Let's leave 'em buried."

In Coleman's mind, it's a new day.

Coleman, you see, is one of the best athletes in all of black college sports, something pro scouts have not overlooked.

The Washington Redskins recently invited Coleman to the nation's capitol for a tryout, but Coleman isn't too interested in a career in pro football. For Coleman, a native of Jacksonville, Fla., baseball is where it's at.

When the major-league draft is held in June, Coleman's name is sure to be called. Baseball scouts from virtually every major-league team have come to Rattler Field this spring to watch Coleman, a 5-foot-11, 175-pound senior. Coleman finished the baseball season with a nifty .402 career batting average and 117 stolen bases -- including a NCAA record seven in one game earlier this spring.

One thing about Coleman has the scouts drooling -- speed.

Coleman is a 'burner', the scouts say.

"I don't think there is any question he'll get drafted," said a West Coast baseball scout who asked that his name not be used. "Any time you see a kid that has the kind of speed he has, you're interested. There are some things he needs to work on, but he seems to have the tools."

For a while, it seemed those tools would do Coleman little good.

It was late in the football season, and Coleman, an all-star punter,

was standing in a courtroom alongside a teammate. Both were to plead no contest to taking about \$200 worth of lumber from a Tallahassee, Fla. building supply company.

The pleas led to a two-game suspension for the players, a move that Coleman publicly denounced.

"They didn't catch us at the place, and they didn't catch us with any wood," says Coleman. "I didn't think that story should have ever hit the fan. If it had been anybody else but me, you wouldn't have seen it in the newspaper."

Others looked at the arrest in a different way. Many people, including Coleman, saw it as it was: bad publicity, the kind that can destroy a draft prospect, or at least, diminish his worth.

But Vincent Coleman has survived all that. There has been no trouble from him since a judge gave him probation on the burglary charge. He returned for the final two games of the football season and played superbly.

And sometime this summer, if a baseball career doesn't interfere, Coleman will finish his degree work in physical education.

Coleman, however, won't mind if baseball calls.

"I think my future is in baseball," he says. "And I think that is definitely where the money is. A top punter in the NFL might make \$40,000 a year. The potential in baseball is far greater."

Coleman has been getting some good advice as far as football salaries are concerned. His cousin, Greg, punts for the Minnesota Vikings.

"He tells me to forget about football," Vincent laughs.

In this case, the baseball team fortunate enough to draft Vincent Coleman will have the last laugh.

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